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A cyclodextrin-modified thermoplastic porous layer material is prepared by coating the surface of a fibrous nonwoven web, open-celled foam, porous film or the like with a chemical composition including a cyclodextrin compound, and then irradiating the coated fabric to induce a chemical reaction between the cyclodextrin compound and the underlying layer material. The resulting cyclodextrin-modified layer material has durable hydrophilic properties useful in topsheets for absorbent articles, and entrapment capabilities useful in water filters, blood filters, controlled delivery articles and protective garments.